

for the affair, according to Dr. William S. Porter, chairman of the committee in charge.

Members of the medical profession, civic and business leaders, city and county officials were among those present.

Speakers for the occasion presented addresses combining to make a health program, dealing with the question of medicine in connection with education, legal questions, public health, crime and crime prevention.

Included among the speakers were former Governor George C. Pardee, who discussed the question of water and health from the standpoint of the East Bay's new municipal water project; Superior Judge Lincoln Church, who discussed the medical profession and its relation to the law; Dr. George H. Kress of Los Angeles, who dealt with medical practice in general, and Judge William Donohue, who discussed "legal medicine."

Dr. W. B. Black, recently appointed head of the Alameda County institutions, was formally presented at the dinner. Following the resignation of Dr. R. H. Broderick as head of the county institutions, Doctor Hamlin carried on the work until a successor, in the person of Doctor Black, was secured. Doctor Hamlin still remains at the head of the Emergency Hospital, in charge of all county emergency work, in addition to being chief of staff at Providence Hospital, official of the state medical society and director in many local enterprises.

## READERS FORUM

**Much Appreciated Gift from Dr. R. F. Rooney  
Ex-President C. M. A.**

Auburn, California.  
April 5, 1928.

Emma W. Pope, M. D.,  
Secretary California State Medical Society,  
Balboa Building,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Doctor Pope: According to my promise, I sent you today, per insured mail, Vol. I of the *California Journal of Medicine*.

I part with it, as the Scotchman jokes, "wi' deeficulty," as it was the initiatory of medical journalism taking its stand against patent and proprietary advertisements in journals of repute.

Today this fight is won, and our journals are clean; thanks to the efforts of our first editor, dear dead Phil Jones.

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) R. F. ROONEY.

Note: As the above letter shows, the California Association are deeply indebted to Doctor Rooney of Auburn for the missing first volume of *The California Medical Journal*, which they have endeavored to replace in their files for many years.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO \*

### EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Volume 1, No. 8, June, 1903

From some editorial notes:

... The Board of Examiners. The state society, by a vote of twenty-six to four, has recorded its approval of the present medical licensing law, and its disapproval of any attempt to modify it by placing the control of the Board of Examiners in any hands other than those of the medical profession ...

... Milk supply supervision. The necessity of medical supervision of the milk supply of cities in the

\* This column aims to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of state society work some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and recent members.

paper read by Dr. George H. Evans at the recent meeting of the State Society at Santa Barbara. . .

... Reports from county bodies. Once more the Journal appeals to each and every member of the state society for proper aid and assistance. We want to know and to publish the doings and the transactions of every county medical society in the state. . .

... State society annual meeting. The Santa Barbara meeting of the state society was noteworthy for many reasons and in many ways. It was the first meeting under the new plan, whereby all the business of the society is transacted by a house of delegates composed of members duly elected by the affiliated county societies, and it demonstrated the wisdom of this plan beyond all question.

From the official minutes of the legislative branch of the Medical Society of the State of California at its thirty-third annual session held at Potter Hotel, Santa Barbara, April 21-23, 1903:

... A communication from the Secretary of State to the effect that the Medical Society of the State of California was incorporated November 10, 1870, was read and ordered placed on file. . .

... Article IV, section 2, line 1. "Each county medical society entitled to representation shall have the privilege of sending to the state society one delegate for every additional major fraction of that number; but each affiliated society having less than twenty-five members shall be entitled to one delegate."

... Section 13. The committee finds that many defects have developed in the present Constitution and that certain contingencies have not been provided for; with a view to curing these defects a draft constitution and by-laws is herewith submitted. This document is, in effect, the Constitution for state societies offered by the American Medical Association and modified to suit local conditions. The committee recommends that this draft, together with the present Constitution, be placed in the hands of a special committee of five, to be appointed by the incoming president, for the purpose of thoroughly studying the same at its next annual meeting. (Adopted.) Signed, James H. Parkinson, chairman; D. A. Hodghead, J. Henry Barbat, R. F. Rooney; E. Rixford, secretary.

From the report on medical legislation and education, by Henry Gibbons, Jr., A. M., M. D.

... Some record should be kept of legislative proceedings relating to medicine; therefore, the following report is presented: Three bills proposing modification of the existing law regulating the practice of medicine in the state of California were introduced at the recent session of the legislature. . .

... The primary aim of all these bills seemed to be to transfer the power of appointment of the members of the Board of Examiners from the societies to the Governor.

From the report of medical education and the work of the Board of Medical Examiners, by W. S. Thorne, A. M., M. D.:

... Mr. President and Gentlemen: It is meet that we, your authorized and accredited servants, should render at this time an account of our stewardship. . .

... The trained and duly licensed practitioner, whose skill and usefulness is attested by entire communities, should not be deprived of his well-earned honors or the fruits of his life work by a trick of the pen or a misconception of the law. . .

... On the first of August, 1901, the act for the regulation of the practice of medicine and surgery in the state of California and for the appointment of a board of medical examiners went into effect. Similar laws had been enacted by the various states, and the wisdom and beneficent results of such enactments are attested by a majority of the people. . .

... It is of paramount importance that state boards should unite upon a minimum standard of preliminary and medical education and enter upon reciprocal relations, based upon such standards.